

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0259
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 06081

USEEC

PARIS FOR USOECD

EO 11652:GDS
TAGS: EGEN
SUBJECT: CIEC FOLLOWUP--COORDINATION ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES

REF: A) STATE 135722, B) EC BRUSSELS 6004

1. IN ABSENCE KEY COMMISSIONERS (HAFERKAMP IN STRASBOURG, CHEYSSON IN LONDON) WE DISCUSSED POINTS MADE IN REFTEL WITH CASPARI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL DG I JUNE 14. AMBASSADOR, WHO IS ALSO IN STRASBOURG, IS SEEKING OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE WITH HAFERKAMP THERE.

2. CASPARI WAS, OF COURSE, VERY PLEASED WITH ASSESSMENT IN REFTEL OF REASONS WHY COORDINATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND US WAS PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL AND WAS DELIGHTED TO HAVE OFFICIAL US EXPOSITION OF THOSE FACTORS. HE ALSO SAID COMMISSION FULLY AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF MAINTAINING THIS KIND OF COORDINATION FOR CIEC FOLLOWUP AND EXPECTED THAT COMMISSION WOULD WORK HARD WITH MEMBER STATES TO GET
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THEIR AGREEMENT TO ARRANGEMENT IN WHICH EC WOULD CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AS A COMMUNITY IN THE ONGOING DIALOGUE. IT WAS PARTICULARLY IN THIS REGARD THAT HE WELCOMED EXPRESSION OF US SUPPORT.

3. CASPARI SAID HE WAS WORKING ON A SIMILAR PROPOSAL TO BE PUT BEFORE MEMBER STATES AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. HE

THOUGHT, HOWEVER, IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT MEMBER STATES WOULD FOCUS ON ISSUE IN ANY MEANINGFUL WAY UNTIL MEETING OF EUROPEAN COUNCIL JUNE 29-30. WHILE HE HOPED TO GET ENDORSEMENT FROM HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AT THAT TIME TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT COMMUNITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE POSITIONS AS COMMUNITY IN FOLLOWUP FORUMS, HE DID NOT THINK EC COULD HAVE A CONCERTED VIEW AT OECD MINISTERIAL.

4. ASKED FOR HIS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF WHERE THE MEMBER STATES STOOD ON QUESTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, HE SAID THAT HE BELIEVED MAJORITY WOULD FAVOR SUCH CONTINUATION. MAJOR QUESTION MARKS AT THE MOMENT WERE FRANCE AND THE NETHERLANDS, (WHICH DEPENDED TO A LARGE EXTENT ON THE ROLE WHICH PRONK -- WHO HAS BEEN MOST OPPOSED TO COORDINATED EC POSITION IN PAST -- WOULD HOLD IN NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT). HE THOUGHT UK WOULD PROBABLY AGREE TO CONTINUE UNDER COMMUNITY FORMULA AND THAT CHANCES WERE FAIRLY GOOD THAT GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY (WHICH FAVORS THIS APPROACH) COULD PREVAIL OVER ECONOMICS MINISTRY, WHICH WOULD RATHER PLAY INDEPENDENT CARD.

5. AGAIN ON PERSONAL BASIS, CASPARI THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO CONTINUE G-8 AS A VERY INFORMAL GROUPING MORE OR LESS ALONG LINES OF JOLLES GROUP IN XCSS. THIS WOULD HELP TO AVOID PROBLEMS OF DISCRIMINATION VIS-A-VIS OTHER OECD MEMBERS WHO MIGHT NOT WELCOME CONTINUATION OF G-8 AS SUCH.

5. CASPARI PROMISED TO CONSULT FURTHER WITHIN THE COM-
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MISSION AND GIVE US ANY OTHER VIEWS IN ADVANCE OF OECD MINISTERIAL AS MEANS OF ASSISTING IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS AT THAT TIME. HINTON

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